

March 1, 2014

Hello,

The Instructional Innovations Unit and the School Support Unit are proud to announce the launch of a monthly online *Innovative Solutions Newsletter*.

The newsletter will be based on the components within The Montana Literacy Plan (MLP). The MLP provides guidance for districts, schools and early childhood centers as they plan for comprehensive literacy instruction and assessment. A school's curriculum must be grounded in the Montana Common Core Standards (MCCS) and delivered with research-based instructional strategies that meet the needs of all learners. The MLP outlines systemic processes for educational leaders towards the improvement of student literacy outcomes which include a comprehensive assessment system to inform the decision-making and action goal setting processes.

The *Innovative Solutions Newsletter* provides current evidence-based resources and tools to support schools as they implement the MLP to increase student literacy outcomes. The following components will be highlighted each month.

Leadership
Standards
Instruction
Assessment

The MLP and a brief video outlining its contents are available for download on our website at the following links:

MLP: http://opi.mt.gov/Streamer/Instructional_Innovations/index.php?gpm=1_7

Video: http://opi.mt.gov/streamer/instructional_innovations/MontanaLiteracy/MLPIntro.m4v

Enjoy this first addition. If you would like to be a regular subscriber to the newsletter, please enter your email on the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) subscriptions website at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Subscriptions/>, check the *Innovative Solutions Newsletter*, and click on Subscribe.

Happy implementing from the OPI Instructional Innovations and School Support Teams.

[BJ Granbery](#), Division Administrator, 406-444-4420
[Debbie Hunsaker](#), Early Reading Unit Director, 406-444-0733
[Kathy Tiefenthaler](#), School Support Unit Director, 406-444-1872
[Terri Barclay](#), Early Grades Specialist, 406-444-0753
[Tara Ferriter-Smith](#), Early Reading First Specialist, 406-444-0758
[Leslie Mills](#), School Support System Specialist, 406-444-0466
[Gwen Poole](#), Instructional Specialist, 406-672-3022
[Cheryl Heldt](#), School Support System Assistant, 406-444-0686
[Sheri Harlow](#), Administrative Assistant, 406-444-0864